



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, SAN FRANCISCO
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
LAKE SONOMA
3333 SKAGGS SPRINGS ROAD
GEYSERVILLE, CA 95441-9644

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE- September 8, 2004

SPECIAL WILD PIG HUNTS SCHEDULED AT LAKE SONOMA

Feral pig hunts will be offered at Lake Sonoma during a special hunting season. Archery and crossbow hunting of feral pigs will be permitted on special hunt days beginning in October and ending in March. Contact the Lake Sonoma Visitor Center for information on hunting days or e-mail Park Ranger Joel Miller at jmiller@spd.usace.army.mil for a complete hunting calendar.

The Purpose for Pig Hunts:

These hunts are intended to reduce the local population of wild pigs. The European wild pig (*Sus scrofa*) was brought into Carmel Valley in Monterey County in 1925. Here pigs were released into the wilds where they expanded their range and interbred with feral domestic pigs. The range was further expanded by individuals who caught wild pigs and relocated them in various areas throughout the state. Wild pigs have become an increasing problem at Lake Sonoma. Extensive erosion damage is occurring due to the pigs rooting up many acres of hillsides trails and landscaped areas of the park.

Special Restrictions:

These special hunting dates are limited to archery and crossbow hunting only. Hunters may not possess any firearm while in the park.

Hunters must clearly display their valid California hunting license on their clothing while in the park.

Only limited portions of the park are open for hunting. Hunters must consult a park hunting map (available at the park visitor center).

Hunters are required to check in at the Milt Brandt Visitor Center prior to hunting, and display a special hunt pass on the windshield of their vehicles. Hunters also must check out by depositing their special hunt pass in a fee vault located at the public boat ramps or in the self-registration box located in front of the Milt Brandt Visitor Center.

Hunters are subject to all park rules and regulations as well as all applicable Department of Fish & Game rules and regulations and State laws.

The conduct of hunters observed during this hunting period will determine if future hunts will be held next fall.

Contacts:

Public questions regarding this special hunt may be directed to:

Lake Sonoma Visitor Center (707) 433-9483 Ext.27

For further information on this press release, contact:

Park Ranger Joel Miller (707) 433-9483 Ext. 20